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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Hank Brown
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 10510

Dear Senator Brown:

This is in reply to your letter of February 8, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take your constituents' concerns into account when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest. Your constituents' letters will be included in the record of the proceeding. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Levin

Richard J. Shiben
Chief, Land Mobile & Microwave Division
Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures

cc:
Chief, PR Bureau
Chief, LM&M Division
Docket Files, Room 222
P&P Branch File (Pink)

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02/18/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300694	02/18/93	02/08/93	03/03/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME
Senator	Hank Brown

REPLY FOR SIG OF
BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
several	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/Lmm 2-19-93			
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
02/18/93			

REMARKS:

HANK BROWN
COLORADO

COMMITTEES:
BUDGET
FOREIGN RELATIONS
JUDICIARY

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0604

February 8, 1993

PRB
92-235
694

The Honorable James Quello
Acting Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Room 814
Washington, D.C. 20554

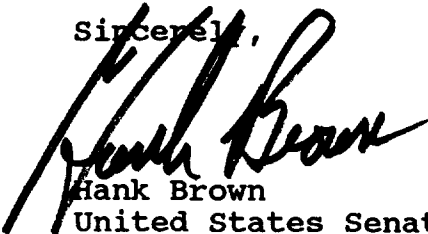
Dear Chairman Quello:

Enclosed are copies of correspondence from several of my constituents. The correspondence is regarding the proposal to revise the Private Land Mobile Radio (PLMR) services, and to modify the policies that govern them.

Your review of this material and any suggestions for replying to these letters would be helpful. If there are any questions, please contact Liz Woodard of my staff at (202) 224-5941. A reply to Liz's attention would be appreciated.

Many thanks for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,


Hank Brown
United States Senator

HB/lw

Enclosure

#270450
K 2/8

690 S. Canosa Ct.
Denver, CO 80219
January 30, 1993

The Honorable Hank Brown
United States Senate
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Brown:

I am newly retired and plan to expand my activities in flying radio controlled gliders and electric powered model aircraft. I am active in the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association which has been an active model club for many years and has produced several national and world champion flyers.

I have strong concerns about the FCC proposed rule change under their NPRN-PR Docket 92-235. The changes would allow for the insertion of new frequencies (for mobile voice radio) between present radio control and communication frequencies. These new frequencies create a strong likelihood of radio interference with the existing RC channels.

Several years ago the Academy of Model Aeronautics in conjunction with the FCC embarked on a program to create more radio channels within the existing radio control bands. This was an effort to reduce RC channel congestion. The radio control manufacturers along with the modelers went through a major change to meet this new set of standards by January 1992. The standards made obsolete a lot of older equipment and required users of relatively new radios to have their equipment updated. This was expensive but left the radios at least affordable. New equipment made to work safely with the proposed standards would be prohibitively expensive and force many of us out of the hobby.

If the new frequencies were for fixed base radios, modelers and clubs could work around an interfering transmitter by not using RC channels that are affected. With mobile radios, a flyer would never know when a mobile unit might cause the pilot to loose control and crash.

Radio interference can be a very dangerous situation. Some big gliders have wingspans of over 10 or 12 feet and can fly at suprisingly high speed. Some powered models are 1/4 scale of real aircraft and weigh 30 to 40 pounds. Even momentary loss of control can turn the aircraft into a dangerous object.

Please help my fellow RC modelers and myself continue the safe enjoyment of our hobby by asking the FCC to cancel PR Docket 92-235.

Yours Truly,

Tracy Cochran
Tracy Cochran

1993 FEB 4 - 4 PM 3:58

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2/8

1993 FEB -4 PM 3:57

Dear Senator Brown

I am very active in a local club whose members enjoy constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes. I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Klum
1078 NOVA Rd
PINE, CO 80470

270431 km.
2/8

1993 FEB -3 PM 3:55

Gregory M Boyer
10062 E Aberdeen Ave
Englewood, CO 80111

The Honorable Hank Brown
United States Senate
Washington, DC

23 Jan 1993

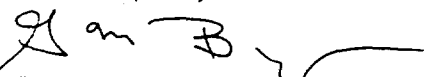
Dear Senator Brown,

I am concerned about a proposed rule making by the FCC concerning reallocation of radio frequencies (PR Docket 92-235). The FCC is proposing to sandwich new radio frequencies between the frequencies I use for radio controlled airplanes. As found in PR Docket 92-235, they are: 72.0725, 72.0775, 72.0825 and 72.0875. As I'm sure you can imagine, the transmitter I use for a radio airplane is quite weak. The proposed new frequencies will allow high-powered transmitters on a frequency very close to mine. If that transmitter is mistuned, it can spell disaster for me.

Not only are my models expensive, but they represent a lot of effort to build. I have experienced several instances when I took a "hit" from some other radio and was unable to control the aircraft. My club flies at the Cherry Creek Reservoir. The aircraft fly at around 40 mph and weigh 20 - 30 pounds. They can be very deadly projectiles! By inserting a frequency band for a much more powerful transmitter close to my frequency the FCC is inviting disaster.

Needless to say, there are a limited number of frequencies available and the FCC does it's best to utilize them. But, you would think it would make sense for them to avoid a conflict with a something so sensitive to frequency integrity.

Thank you,


Gregory M Boyer